



Population Density of Australian States and Territories

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

Task One: Calculating Population Density

Population density is the number of persons per square kilometre. The formula for calculating density is shown below.

Population Density = Number of Persons ÷ Area of land

It is expressed as persons per square kilometre (persons/km²)

1. Calculate the density of population for Australian states and territories correct to one decimal place and insert these into Table 1.

TABLE 1: POPULATION BY STATE AND TERRITORY, 30TH JUNE 2008			
State/Territory	Population	Estimated Area (km ²)	Population Density Persons/km ²
Australian Capital Territory	346,000	2,358	
New South Wales	6,984,000	800,642	
Northern Territory	220,000	1,349,129	
Queensland	4,294,000	1,730,648	
South Australia	1,603,000	983,482	
Tasmania	498,000	68,401	
Victoria	5,314,000	227,416	
Western Australia	2,171,000	2,529,875	
Australia^(a)	21,432,000	7,692,024	

Source: Year Book Australia, 2009-10 (cat. No. 1301.0) Tables 1.1 and 7.3

^(a) Includes Other Territories. Other Territories comprise Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas Island and the Cocos(Keeling) Islands.

Task Two: Representing Population Density on a Map

2. Create a map to show the population density of Australian states and territories on Figure 1. Your map should use shades of red, darker for areas of higher density and lighter shades for low density.

Remember to check that all BOLTSS (border, orientation, legend, title,

scale and source) are present.

Choose 5 ranges or categories to display the data or use those provided

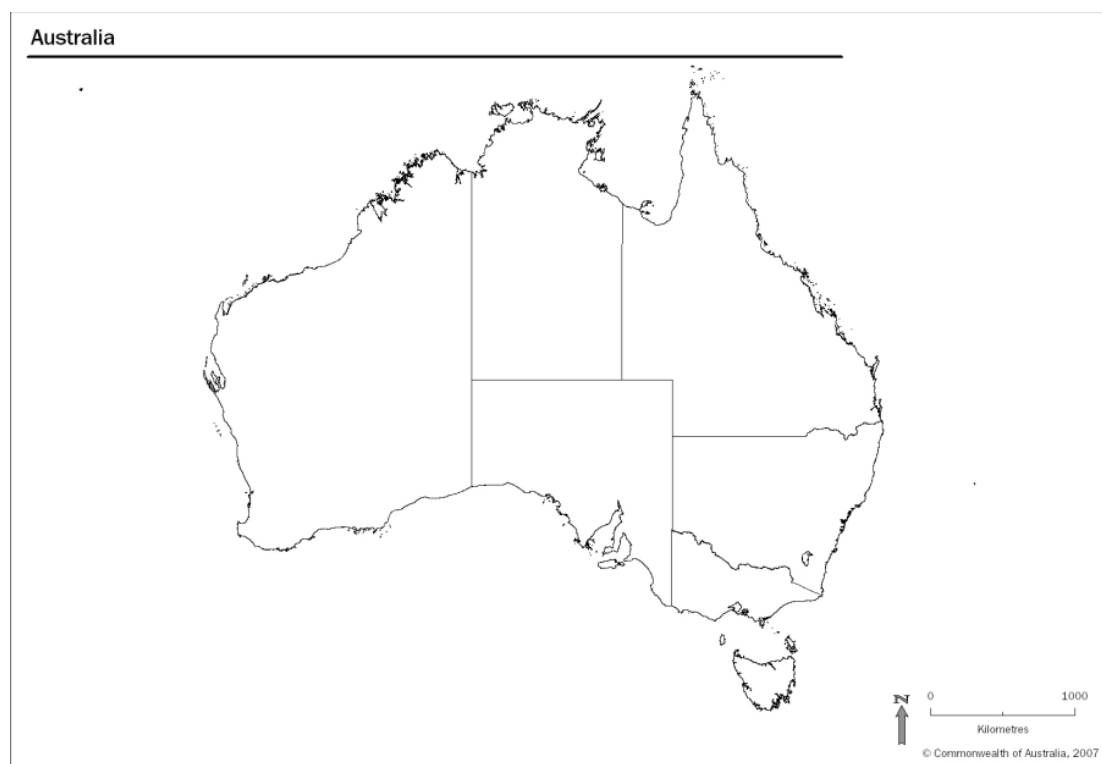


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by your teacher.

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FIGURE 1: MAP OF AUSTRALIA



3. How could the map change if different ranges are chosen for the data?
4. Identify one advantage and one disadvantage of representing the information about the population of Australian states and territories in this way.